

OCT 06, 2006

U.S. Serial No. 10/757,546
Amendment
Response to 6-8-06 OA

Atty. Docket No. 740165-369

REMARKS

Applicants' attorney gratefully acknowledges the interview granted by Examiner Haugland on September 6, 2006.

At that interview, applicants' attorney proposed ways in which the claims might be amended to obviate the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 USC Sec. 112, first paragraph. Specifically, the applicants' attorney proposed deleting the word "substantially" from the tenth line of claim 1, so that claim 1 specifically recites

"a driving mechanism, which is disposed between the pair of leg plates
such that no portion of said driving mechanism extends beyond said leg plates..."

Applicants' attorney pointed out, and the Examiner agreed, that this revised limitation is clearly supported by Figure 1 of the specification and by the text on page 19, lines 1-4, which states "...a motor 67 serving as a driving mechanism is disposed between the leg plate 16 and the leg plate 18..." Figure 1 clearly illustrates that no part of the motor 67 extends beyond the plates 16 and 18. As the above limitation finds ample support in the specification, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC Sec. 112, first paragraph, should be reconsidered and withdrawn in accordance with the agreement reached at the interview.

The rejection of claims 15, 16 and 19 under 35 USC Sec. 112, first paragraph, has been obviated by deleting the objected-to language. The Examiner should note that claim 15 is now almost identical in scope to originally-filed claim 6 and hence is clearly supported. As to the remaining portion of claim 16, the Examiner is again referred to Figure 1, and page 19, third paragraph, which describes the clutch mechanism 90 as being disposed "between the flange portion 24 of the spool 20, and the leg plate 16". Accordingly, the Sec. 112, first paragraph rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

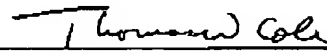
The Examiner should further note that the amendment of claim 15 further obviates the rejection of claims 15 and 17 under 35 USC Sec. 112, second paragraph as the allegedly indefinite language has been deleted.

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For all of these reasons, applicants' attorney requests the Examiner to withdraw all Sec. 112 rejections of the claims in accordance with the agreement reached at the interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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